

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)**  
**(Large Entity)**

Docket No. *117*

In Re Application Of:

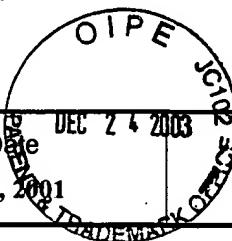
Smith, et al

Serial No.  
09/978,131

Filing Date  
October 16, 2001

Examiner  
Aaron J. LEWIS

Group Art Unit  
3761



Invention:

**METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TREATING BREATHING GASES**

**TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:**

This is a request under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) to extend the period for filing a response to the Office Action of June 27, 2003 above-identified application.  
*Date*

The requested extension is as follows (check time period desired):

One month       Two months       Three months       Four months       Five months

from: September 27, 2003      until: December 27, 2003  
*Date*      *Date*

The fee for the extension of time is **\$950** and is to be paid as follows:

- A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.
- The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No.
- If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefor and charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No.

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 07 2004**

Dated: *Dec 24 2003* TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

*Signature*

**ROBERT M. SKOLNIK**  
**REG. NO. 24,688**  
**353 Monmouth Road**  
**PO Box 22**  
**West Long Branch, NJ 07764**

01/02/2004 CNGUYEN 00000028 09978131

02 FC:1253

950.00 OP

CC:

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on December 24, 2003 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*Signature of Person Mailing Correspondence*

**ROBERT M. SKOLNIK**

*Typed or Printed Name of Person Mailing Correspondence*